



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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**HEALTH**  
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**SAFE in Northern Michigan hosts “Drug Trends Info Night,” an informational event, on Oct. 19**

MANCELONA – Adults in Antrim County are invited to discover the latest trends in adolescent drug use, and learn how they can help young people stay substance-free. The local coalition Substance Abuse Free Environment (SAFE) in Northern Michigan will host guest speaker Trooper Corey Hebner of the Michigan State Police; he will present “Drug Trends Info Night” from 6-8pm on Monday, Oct. 19, at Mancelona High School.

“Our goal is to educate and inform the community about current drug trends that youth are exposed to,” said Amy Brown, coalition member and Community Health Coordinator at the Health Department of Northwest Michigan. “This is geared toward parents, teachers, counselors, school administrators, coaches, youth pastors, and really any adult who interacts with teens and preteens.”

Topics will include symbolism in drug culture, including paraphernalia, clothing, and more subtle signs that often go “completely unnoticed” by adults. Information about substance use among teenagers, including prescription drug abuse, will be discussed. Brown said she is looking forward to Trooper Hebner’s presentation and expertise on the matter.

Hebner, who is a community service trooper based in Gaylord, will speak about the pressures youth face in today’s culture. Earlier this year, Hebner received the Dr. Carl A. Gerstacker Trooper of the Year Award in recognition of his community involvement, dedication to duty, and professional ethics.

SAFE in Northern Michigan’s Antrim branch previously operated under the name Antrim County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition. SAFE in Northern Michigan exists to prevent youth substance use and increase community awareness of alcohol, tobacco and other substance use in Northern Michigan, with the vision of creating environments free of substance use. The coalition is made up of community members that represent various local sectors and organizations, including the Health Department of Northwest Michigan.

For information regarding this event, contact Amy Brown at (231) 533-1012, or visit [www.safeinmm.com](http://www.safeinmm.com) to learn more about SAFE in Northern Michigan. Call **(800) 432-4121** for more information about Health Department programs and services. The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is mandated by the Michigan Public Health Code to promote wellness, prevent disease, provide quality healthcare, address health problems of vulnerable populations, and protect the environment for the residents and visitors of Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, and Otsego Counties.

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